

Abstract of the Invention

2 An apparatus for providing a uniform web of filaments comprises tube filament
transport means exiting through a confined zone of reduced turbulence, which preferably
4 comprises a delivery slot. The delivery slot is configured with sidewalls substantially
parallel to one another and to the transport tubes, so that filaments undergo minimal
6 machine direction deflection in the slot. Charging means within the slot charge the
filaments for further cross direction separation. A method of providing a uniform web of
8 filaments comprises transporting filaments through transport tubes, through a tapered
transition member, and into a delivery slot. The delivery slot is defined by sidewalls that
10 are substantially parallel to one another and to the transport tubes, so that minimal
machine direction deflection of the filaments occurs. The filaments are also charged by
12 electrostatic charging means while they are in the slot for further separation. The method
and apparatus of the invention provide for a uniform filament web with high machine
14 direction orientation.